

The Rural District Council
OF
Lothlingland



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
Medical Officer of Health

For the Year, 1940

LAURENCE GIBSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Lowestoft :
FLOOD & SON, LTD., THE BOROUGH PRESS.

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OF

Nottingham

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SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS.

Area of District (including inland water) Acres	..	44,653
Population (Census figures) 1931	.. ..	13,626
„ estimated by Registrar General for 1940	..	15,930
Gross Births	.. ..	195
Nett Births	.. ..	213
Nett Birth Rate	.. .. per 1000	13.37
Deaths	.. ..	189
Death Rate Recorded	.. .. per 1000	11.86
„ „ adjusted with Comparability Factor*	„	11.50
„ „ Standardized †	.. „	9.43
Infantile Mortality per 1000 births	.. ..	40.9
Zymotic Death Rate	.. .. per 1000	<i>Nil</i>
Tuberculosis Death Rate	.. .. „ „	0.69
Cancer Death Rate	.. .. „ „	1.13
Influenza Death Rate	.. .. „ „	0.38
Pneumonia Death Rate	.. .. „ „	0.19

*The Comparability Factor is a factor by which the crude death rate is modified to allow for the age and sex distribution of the area and is 0.97 for the Lothingland Rural District.

†The factor for the Standardized Death rate is 0.82 to be applied after the previous factor.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE
LOTHINGLAND RURAL DISTRICT
FOR THE YEAR 1940.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have great pleasure in presenting you with my Annual Report for the year 1940. It has been reduced in size from motives of economy.

The population of the district is given by the Registrar General as 15,930.

The Birth rate is 13.37 per 1000, a decrease on last year when it was 15.16.

The Death rate is 11.86 per 1000, an increase on last year when it was 11.11.

For England and Wales the birth rate was 14.6 and the death rate 14.3 per 1000.

Illegitimate Births numbered 13, a percentage of 6.1 of the total births and 0.82 per 1000 population. There were 5 still births, giving a rate of 0.31 per 1000 population.

INFANT MORTALITY—Nine infants (including 3 illegitimate) died under 1 year of age giving an Infantile Mortality Rate of 40.1 per 1000. For England and Wales the rate was 55 per 1000. The Infant Deaths were in the following parishes:—Blundeston (1), Carlton Colville (2), Kessingland (3), Reydon (2), and Wangford (1).

In two cases they were twin pregnancies.

ZYMOTIC DEATHS—There were no deaths from Typhoid Fever, Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever, Measles, Whooping Cough and Infant Diarrhoea.

In order to show how the Zymotic Death rate has improved in the last 60 years I give the average rates from 1878 to 1940 in 10 year periods.

AVERAGE ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE.

From	1878-1884	..	..	..	..	1.63	per 1,000
„	1889-1898	..	..	..	..	1.40	„ „
„	1901-1910	..	..	..	..	0.91	„ „
„	1911-1920	..	..	..	..	0.52	„ „
„	1921-1930	..	..	..	..	0.22	„ „
„	1931-1940	..	..	..	..	0.14	„ „

For England and Wales the Zymotic death rates per 1000 population were as follows :— Whooping Cough 0.02 ; Diphtheria 0.06 ; Measles 0.02 ; Enteritis under 2 years of age caused 4.6 deaths per 1000 live births, the same as last year.

In Lothianland Phthisis and other tubercular diseases caused 11 deaths with a death rate of 0.69 per 1000. Tuberculosis of the respiratory system caused 10 deaths, death rate 0.63 per 1000 and other tubercular diseases caused 1 death, rate 0.06 per 1000.

Cancer caused 18 deaths with a death rate of 1.13 per 1000. Deaths at the following ages :—

Males 49, 53, 60, 60, 69, 70 and 70.

Females 32, 45, 48, 64, 65, 66, 75, 77 and 86.

MATERNAL MORTALITY—One death gives a rate of 4.4 per 1000 live and still Births.

I give the following table to compare the case rates of various infectious diseases, i.e., the number of cases per 1000 population for each disease during the last 5 years.

Disease	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	England & Wales 1940
Scarlet Fever	2.04	4.19	1.87	1.04	1.95	0.82	1.63
Diphtheria	0.20	0.62	0.00	0.48	0.13	0.00	1.16
Enteric Fever	0.48	0.00	0.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.07
Puerperal Pyrexia	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.07	0.13	0.25	—
Erysipelas	0.14	0.21	0.28	0.07	0.00	0.06	0.33
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.07	0.06	0.00	—
Pneumonia	0.54	1.37	1.04	0.42	0.73	0.75	1.20

The rate for Puerperal Pyrexia is better expressed in relation to the number of births registered than to the population. On this basis the rate is 17.7 compared to 11.96 for England and Wales.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following notifications were received during the year. There were 21 compared with 39 in 1939. They were as follows :—

Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	31
Cerebro-spinal Fever	..	..	..	..	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	..	..	..	..	4
Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	1

SCARLET FEVER—notified from the following parishes, Blundeston (2) Burgh Castle (1) Corton (1) Flixton (2) Hopton (3) Somerleyton (3) and Wangford (1).

They were notified in the following months—January (3) February (1) May (1) June (1) July (2) August (2) September (2) and October (1).

One family had 3 cases, and 3 families had 2 cases each.

CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER—3 cases were notified in March, May, and November and came from the parishes of Kessingland, Corton, and Barnby. Ages, 3, 36 and 6. All males.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA—4 cases notified in February, May, September and October and came from the parishes of Fritton (1) Reydon (2) and Wrentham (1).

ERYSIPELAS—1 case notified from Wrentham in December.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES 1940.

Disease	Total Cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	13	11	0
Cerebro-spinal Fever	3	3	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	4	2	1
Erysipelas	1	0	0
Whooping Cough	41	0	0
Measles	4	0	0
Pneumonia	12	3	4

AGE GROUPS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

		Scarlet Fever	Cerebro-spinal Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Erysipelas	Pneumonia	Measles	Whooping Cough
Under	1 year	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Between	1-2 years	0	0	0	0	2	0	6
	2-3 „	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
	3-4 „	0	1	0	0	0	0	8
	4-5 „	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
	5-10 „	5	1	0	0	1	0	12
	10-15 „	5	0	0	0	1	0	2
	15-20 „	2	0	0	0	0	1	1
	20-35 „	1	0	4	0	0	3	0
	35-45 „	0	1	0	0	2	0	1
	45-65 „	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
65 years	& upwards	0	0	0	1	4	0	0

TABLE COMPARING THIS YEAR WITH 5 PREVIOUS YEARS.

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever	Erysipelas	Puerperal Pyrexia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum
1935	30	3	7	2	2	2
1936	61	9	0	3	2	0
1937	27	0	2	4	2	2
1938	15	7	0	1	1	1
1939	31	3	1	0	2	1
1940	13	0	0	1	4	0

PUBLIC HEALTH (INFECTIOUS DISEASES) REGULATIONS 1927.

11 cases were notified as Pneumonia from the following parishes—
Barnby(1) Blundeston(1) Carlton Colville (2) Kessingland(1) Oulton (3)
and Reydon (3).

They were notified in the following months :—January (1)
March (3) April (5) June (1) and September (1). There were 4
deaths.

MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH REGULATIONS 1939.

4 cases of Measles and 41 of Whooping Cough were notified.

TUBERCULOSIS REGULATIONS 1912, 1921, 1924.

Under these Regulations 23 notifications were received, 17
pulmonary, and 6 non-pulmonary. Of the 17 pulmonary, 7 were on Form
A, 5 on Form C, 3 on Form D, and 2 were notified otherwise than by
notification (i.e. a case that had moved into the district and had been
notified before so had not been notified previously).

Of the 8 cases on Forms C and D, all had been
notified before.

Of the 6 non-pulmonary cases, 2 were on Form A, 1 on Form C
and 2 on Form D, and 1 was an old case that came into the district.

AGE AND SEX OF CASES NOTIFIED.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5 years	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5-15 „	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-25 „	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
25-35 „	—	3	—	1	—	4	—	—
35-45 „	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—
45-55 „	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55-65 „	—	3	—	—	—	3	—	—
65 & upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	0	7	1	1	2	8	1	0

Five of the Pulmonary cases received Sanatorium treatment and 2 non-pulmonary cases received Hospital treatment.

At the beginning of the year there were 46 cases on the Register, 23 pulmonary (13 males and 10 females) and 23 non-pulmonary (18 males and 5 females).

During the year 14 cases were added, 10 pulmonary (2 male and 8 females) and 4 non-pulmonary (2 males and 2 females); 20s cases were deducted, 14 pulmonary (5 males and 9 females) and 6 non-pulmonary (4 males and 2 females). At the end of the year there were 40 cases, 19 pulmonary (10 males and 9 females) and 21 non-pulmonary (16 males and 5 females).

The causes of removal from the Register were as follows:— Cured 3, Died 11, 5 removed from the area, and 1 written off as not to be found.

Of the 11 fatal cases 1 had not been notified.

TABLE OF CASES NOTIFIED IN 5 PREVIOUS YEARS.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
1935	4	5	7	2
1936	4	3	6	3
1937	3	5	3	2
1938	5	4	5	2
1939	3	6	2	1

WATER SUPPLY.

During the year 19 samples of water were examined chemically being taken from wells in the following parishes:—Barnby (2) Blundeston (1) Carlton Colville (2) Gisleham (2) Kessingland (5) Mutford (5) Oulton (1) and Wangford (1).

Of these samples 13 were from old wells and 6 from new wells.

The old wells were in the following parishes:—Barnby (2), Blundeston (1) Carlton Colville (2), Gisleham (2), Kessingland (5), and Oulton (1).

Of the 9 samples taken for the first time 6 were good and 3 bad.

Of the 3 samples taken for the second time all were bad.

One taken for the third time was good.

Of the bad samples, 1 house had a demolition order made.

The other 4 wells are not used for drinking purposes.

Of the new wells:—Mutford (5) and Wangford (1), 2 samples were good in a first analysis and 2 in a second analysis.

Under Sec. 137 of the Public Health Act 1936, 5 certificates for seven houses have been issued:—Mutford (3), Uggheshall (2) and Wangford (2).

The only alteration in the public supplies is the provision of a chlorinating plant by the Southwold Water Company.

At Kessingland there has been some delay in the completion of the scheme. One of the pumps has still to be put in.

SCHOOLS.

There is no change in their sanitary circumstances from last year.

From the returns sent to me by the Head Teachers the more severe outbreaks of minor infectious diseases were as follows:

At Belton, Whooping Cough in January.

At Bradwell, Whooping Cough in January.

At Henham, Whooping Cough in March, April and May.

In March and April, German Measles at Kessingland Upper, Corton, Wrentham Senior and Junior, Frostenden, Barnby, Blundeston and Somerleyton.

INFANT WELFARE.

Eighty children were placed on the Register as having attended during the year.

Of these 19 were new cases and 61 had attended before.

Of the new cases 14 were under 1 year of age and 5 between 1 and 5 years old.

Of the old cases 13 were under 1.

The Centre was opened on 23 occasions during 1940, no Clinic being held on January 17th owing to the snow. A doctor was in attendance at all sessions.

The total number of children's attendances was 438, an average of 19 per session.

The total number of consultations was 188, an average of 8.1 per session.

	Number of Sessions	Children attending		Consultations	
		Number	Average	Number	Average
1st quarter	5	111	22.2	65	13
2nd quarter	6	144	24	42	7
3rd quarter	6	103	17.1	45	7.5
4th quarter	6	80	13.3	36	6

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

No alterations since last year.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The fat and bone boiling establishment at Oulton has been kept under observation.

HOUSING.

Few plans have been passed during the year and inspections have been reduced. 7 Demolition Orders have been made on houses in the following parishes :—Blundeston (2) Frostenden (1) Gisleham (1) Rushmere (1) and Wangford (2). One unsatisfactory dwelling place at Herringfleet was vacated and removed.

Evacuation. Early in June the district became no longer a reception area, and about 1000 evacuees remaining were removed.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

No change from last year.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS ORDERS.

On the Register at the end of the year there were 67 premises for wholesale and retail trade, 74 for wholesale and 29 for retail, a total of 170 for the district.

Five samples from herds were tested for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli and found to be negative.

In 2 cases neighbouring districts reported unsatisfactory samples from milk produced in this district, investigations were made but no suspicious animals were found.

Five new accredited licences have been granted.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Under the present slaughtering arrangements the majority of the meat killed in this district is inspected in the Borough of Lowestoft, but 538 carcasses were inspected and 1400 lbs. of meat condemned.

Public Health Officers

Medical Officer of Health.

Sanitary Inspector.

The Additional Sanitary Inspector appointed in June, 1935, left in December, 1939, to take up another appointment and was not replaced as an economy measure.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES are as before and the service was adequate and satisfactory.

LOWESTOFT ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

LOTHINGLAND PATIENTS TREATED IN 1940.

	In Hospital from last year	Admitted	Days' maintenance
Scarlet Fever	1	5	130
Encephalitis	0	1*	21
Cerebro-spinal Fever	0	2	62

STOWMARKET ISOLATION HOSPITAL

Scarlet Fever	0	4	153
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*The case of Encephalitis was found to be negative.

I have to thank all the Officials whom I have come in contact with during the year for the kindness and courtesy they have shown in assisting me.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

July 29th, 1941.

LAURENCE GIBSON.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA. APPENDIX 1.

Area (in Acres)	.. .. .	44,653
Registrar General's estimate of population (mid 1940)	..	15,930
Number of Inhabited houses (end of 1940) according to		
Rate books)	.. .. .	4,795
Rateable Value	.. .. .	£59,459
Sum represented by a penny rate	.. .. .	£244

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

		Total.	Males.	Females.	
Live Births	Legitimate	200	119	81	Birth rate per 1000
	Illegitimate	13	8	5	estimated resident
					population mid 1940
					13.37
Still Births		5	4	1	Rate per 1,000 total
					live and still births
					22.12
Deaths		189	111	78	Death rate per 1000
					estimated population
					11.86

Deaths from Puerperal Causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar General's short list)

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births
No 29.—Puerperal Sepsis	1	4.4
No. 30.—Other Puerperal causes	0	0
Total	1	4.4

Death rate of Infants under 1 year of age.

All infants per 1000 live births	.. .. .	40.9
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births		28.98
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births		237
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	..	18
„ „ Measles (all ages)	..	0
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)		0
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)		0

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1940.

TABULAR STATEMENT OF INSPECTIONS.

House Inspections	..	..	..	..	64
Cowshed and Dairy		..	..	..	144
Meat and Foods	..	..	..	..	54
Factory	..	..	..	..	30
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	837
					Total
					1,129

NOTICES ISSUED.

Informal	51	All complied with.
Statutory		

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES :—Registered Purveyors.

Registered Premises	..	..	..	..	182
Wholesale and Retail Purveyors		..	..		67
Wholesale only	74
Retail only.	29

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

Carcases examined	538
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Approximately 100 stones Meat certified unfit for human food.
(Included in figures for Borough of Lowestoft).

DISINFECTION.

Rooms Disinfected	..	..	..	..	28
Bedding and Clothing removed for steam disinfection					10 lots.
One house disinfested.					

NEW BUILDINGS :—Fifteen Plans were deposited and all approved under the Building Byelaws. (Chiefly sheds and alterations).

July 3rd, 1941.

A. O. ADCOCK,
Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.

